

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) in California

On April 15, 2005, California regained its **TB Accredited Free** Status. The state was classified as Modified Accredited Advanced more than two years ago after bovine TB was detected in three dairy herds - two in Tulare County and one in Kings County. All three herds were quarantined, the cattle destroyed, and the affected premises cleaned and disinfected. Cattle sold from or associated with each herd were traced and tested.

Following the detection of TB, state and federal veterinarians tested over 870,000 cattle from almost 700 herds to ensure the disease had not spread in California. Additionally, regulations requiring dairy breeding cattle entering California to be tested negative for TB (to prevent reintroducing the disease) were introduced.

TB Across the U.S.

Forty-seven states are classified as TB Accredited Free. Texas is Modified Accredited Advanced. Michigan has split-state status, and New Mexico has just been given split-state status. Bovine TB has recently been detected in cattle herds in Arizona and Minnesota.

TB in Texas

Texas gained TB Accredited Free status in 2000, but lost it in 2002 after two infected herds were detected in 2001. A third infected herd was detected in 2003. Most recently, a TB-infected dairy was detected in Hamilton County in 2004, during a statewide dairy testing effort. All the infected herds have been depopulated, and all 811 dairies in Texas have been tested. Texas officials plan to test at least 2,400 purebred or beef seed stock herds by summer's end - more than 515 herds have been tested so far.

TB in Michigan

Michigan became TB Accredited Free in 1979. In 1994, a TB-infected wild deer was harvested, and subsequently diagnosed with a strain of bovine TB not previously known in wildlife. Michigan lost its free status in October 1999; in June 2000, the entire state was classified as Modified Accredited; in April 2004, Michigan was granted split-state status. The upper 11 counties are now Modified Accredited, and the rest of the state is Modified Accredited Advanced.

Since 1997, Michigan has detected 38 infected herds – 33 beef and 5 dairy herds. More than 17,000 herds (over a million cattle) were tested between January 2000 and January 2005. Testing and surveillance is ongoing in Michigan's livestock and wildlife.

TB in New Mexico

New Mexico lost its TB Accredited Free status in 2003 after two dairy herds in Roosevelt County were diagnosed with infection. One herd has been depopulated; the other is on a test and slaughter plan. Nearly 600,000 cattle have been tested since then, with no new cases of TB.

New Mexico has just received split-state status - only cattle in Roosevelt and a portion of Curry County will require a TB test to leave the state. This interim rule is open for comments until September 20, 2005.

TB in Arizona

In January 2005, an adult dairy cow was detected with TB at slaughter. The cow was traced and the herd of origin quarantined and tested. An additional infected animal was detected, and the herd declared infected.

The last confirmed case of TB in Arizona was found in January 2004 when a heifer tested positive during a routine interstate movement test. This animal was traced back to a New Mexico facility.

Arizona has been classified as TB Accredited Free since 1981. It must now show there has been no spread of bovine TB to other herds to maintain this free status.

TB in Minnesota

In February 2005, a 5-year-old beef cow was detected with TB at slaughter. The cow was traced back to a large beef herd in Roseau County that was quarantined and tested. Additional infected animals were identified, the herd declared infected and the process for depopulation begun.

The state is tracing animals that left the herd in the last seven years and investigating the source of infection. Minnesota will lose its free status if additional infected herds are found. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will test wild deer harvested in Roseau County this fall. Bovine TB was last detected in Minnesota in 1971.

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